



File Code: 1950
Date: December 19, 2019

Dear Interested Party:

The Forest Service is initiating a supplemental environmental analysis for the South Branch Kinzua Creek project on the Marienville Ranger District of the Allegheny National Forest. We are proposing adding shelterwood removal cuts and associated reforestation treatments to 11 stands that were approved for a shelterwood seed cut and associated reforestation treatments in the original South Branch Kinzua Creek decision. The proposed shelterwood removals and associated reforestation treatments would complete the shelterwood sequence for these stands started in the South Branch Kinzua Creek decision and result in an additional 189 acres of early structural habitat within the South Branch Kinzua Creek project area. Please see the attached proposal for more detail. You are receiving this letter because you have expressed interest in this project or in projects on the Allegheny National Forest or you have property near or adjacent to this project. This information is also posted on the Allegheny National Forest website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57331>.

I am interested in hearing your concerns, issues, or suggestions you have regarding this project. Please review the proposal and respond with site-specific comments about the proposed activities along with supporting information and rationale you believe will help identify issues that need to be addressed. I will consider all your comments and determine whether we need to refine the proposed action or develop alternative ways to accomplish our objectives.

This project is subject to pre-decisional objection pursuant to subparts A and B of 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 218. This comment period serves as a scoping period for the project and as one of two planned designated periods for public comment that will provide opportunity for objections eligibility. For your scoping comments to be most useful, please submit them no later than January 21, 2020. The comments submitted should meet the requirements identified in 36 CFR 218. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this project. There will be a second official formally designated public comment period later for receiving comments on our supplemental environmental assessments, in which you can also establish eligibility to object.

Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral, and electronic comments will be considered. Comments received after this date will be considered to the extent that time allows. Comments received, including names and addresses of those who submitted comments, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection.

- Written comments may be mailed or hand-delivered to Robert T. Fallon, District Ranger, Marienville Ranger District, 131 Smokey Lane, Marienville, PA 16239.
- Written comments submitted by facsimile may be sent to 814-927-2285.
- Verbal comments may be provided by calling (814) 927-5700. Business hours for those submitting hand-delivered or oral comments are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m.



to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

- Electronic comments must be submitted in plain text (.txt), rich text (.rtf), or Microsoft Word format to comments-eastern-allegheny-marienville@usda.gov. Please enter the project name (*South Branch Kinzua Creek SEA Project*) on the subject line.

Thank you for your continued interest in these projects. Questions regarding the proposed project can be directed to me at (814) 927-5799 or rob.fallon@usda.gov or Kevin Treese at (814) 927-5759 or kevin.treese@usda.gov. I look forward to having you engaged in this process.

Sincerely,



ROB FALLON
District Ranger